State of California
Regional Water Quality Control Board
North Coast Region

William T. Erdei
March 3, 2004

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S SUMMARY REPORT
9:00 a.m., March 24, 2004
North Coast Regional Water Board Hearing Room
5550 Skylane Boulevard, Suite A
Santa Rosa, California

ITEM: 3

SUBJECT: Exchange Bank Data Center, Adoption of Waste Discharge Requirements for Nutrient Injection into Groundwater, 330 Sebastopol Road, Santa Rosa, Sonoma County

Exchange Bank is conducting a voluntary cleanup effort to remediate groundwater contamination at the former Exchange Bank Data Center site at 330 Sebastopol Road. The Data Center site utilized two underground storage tanks to fuel the company's small fleet of vehicles. One tank was installed in 1979 and removed in 1986. The second underground tank was discovered during site investigation activities and was closed in place due to safety considerations. One or both tanks released gasoline to soil and groundwater.

Groundwater cleanup commenced in October 2000. The remediation system consists of a network of biosparging wells that deliver oxygen at a low flow rate into the affected shallow aquifer to enhance the bioremediation of petroleum hydrocarbons. The cleanup effort has been only partially successful. The degradation of the remaining petroleum hydrocarbons in groundwater in the area of monitoring well M-6 appears to be limited by low dissolved oxygen concentrations and the lack of available dissolved nutrients.

The Exchange Bank proposes to modify the existing biosparge system by adding oxygen and nutrients to groundwater in three newly-installed biosparging wells in the area of M-6. The periodic addition of nutrients to groundwater in the three new biosparging wells should enhance bioremediation and decrease cleanup time. In order to inject nutrients into groundwater, waste discharge requirements need to be issued by the Regional Water Board.

Staff requested a Report of Waste Discharge for the nutrient injection on November 4, 2002. The Report of Waste Discharge was completed on July 11, 2003.

The nutrient solution will consist of nitrate salts and trace amounts of phosphates. Approximately 0.5 pounds of nutrients will be dissolved and then introduced into each biosparging well and circulated through the aquifer by air injection. Groundwater samples will be collected from selected monitoring wells to ensure compliance with water quality goals and to measure the progress of cleanup. Nutrient injections may need to be repeated to complete removal of contaminants from soil and groundwater.

This project is categorically exempt from requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act under Title 14, California Code of regulations, Chapter 3, Article 19, Section 15330.

PRELIMINARY STAFF
RECOMMENDATION: Adopt Order No. R1-2004-0012 as proposed.

WTE:js/ExchangeBankEOSR